

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Tetsuya Fukaya, et al.  
Serial No.: 10/680,867  
Filed: October 6, 2003  
For: METHOD OF PRODUCING  
STERILIZED PACKED PASTA  
Group Art Unit: 1794  
Confirmation No.: 4382  
Examiner: T. Tran Lien  
Attorney Docket: KGME P015

**CERTIFICATE OF EFS-WEB  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted electronically through EFS-WEB to the Commissioner for Patent, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on March 17, 2008.

Signed: /Deborah Neill/  
Deborah Neill

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "D"**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated January 7, 2008 and the Advisory Action dated March 7, 2008 in the above-referenced application, applicant is submitting a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.114 simultaneously herewith, together with a fee for said RCE. The instant PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT is being filed as the "submission" related to said RCE in which the application is amended as follows: